Sugar Beet Industry

To The Denver Post:

CITIES AND TOWNS and all citizens in beet growing areas, as well as beet growers, have a vital interest in the sugar beet industry. If beet growers find it impossible to obtain equitable contracts for beet production, then every citizen suffers along with the beet grower.

In past years, management of the Great Western Sugar Company showed interest and concern for the welfare of beet growers, and also towns and cities in which their factories operate. The company and all these groups of people prospered over an extended period of time.

In recent years resources of the sugar beet industry have been invested unsuccessfully in unrelated ventures.

Before the Hunt brothers recently obtained control of Great Western United, they described the management of the company as "a can of worms."

How should the present management of Great Western United be described? This will depend upon its performance over a period of time. But a question must be asked: Why should beet growers be compelled to seek justice through the courts for equitable and timely payments for sugar beets they grew in 1974? Sugar from these beets have made record profits for the company.

Sugar beet growers should stand firm and united with directors of their associations in negotiations for a 1975 contract.

A more distant view of this industry might include plans by beet growers to build and operate their own modern sugar beet factories. This would be feasible and possible with the backing of cities and towns involved, along with growers. When this is accomplished, the entire resources of sugar production could be used to promote and advance the industry and benefit all persons connected with it.

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